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## Ceramic Comparisons Between Certain Historic Caddo Sites in Nacogdoches County, Texas: Henry M. (41NA60), Spradley (41NA206), and Deshazo (41NA27)

Timothy K. Perttula

*Heritage Research Center, Stephen F. Austin State University, tkp4747@aol.com*

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## **Ceramic Comparisons Between Certain Historic Caddo Sites in Nacogdoches County, Texas: Henry M. (41NA60), Spradley (41NA206), and Deshazo (41NA27)**

*Timothy K. Perttula*

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The Henry M., Deshazo, and Spradley sites are three of the better and recently studied Historic Caddo ceramic assemblages in East Texas (see Middlebrook and Perttula 2008; Perttula et al. 2009; Fields 1995). All three are in Nacogdoches County (see Middlebrook 2007:Figure 1), Henry M. and Deshazo on Bayou Loco, and Spradley on Lanana Creek.

How do these sites compare with respect to the decorative classes present in the utility wares and fine wares? All three sites are dominated by brushed utility wares (Table 1). At Spradley, brushed pottery comprises 53.4% of the decorated sherds compared to 72.7-85.6% of the decorated sherds from Henry M. and Deshazo. Incised, punctated, and incised-punctated decorative classes, however, are also abundant in the Spradley ceramic assemblage (30.8%), but much rarer in the Henry M. and Deshazo utility wares.

Fine wares—especially Patton Engraved—comprise between 13.8% and 15% of the decorated sherds at the Spradley and Henry M. sites (see Table 1), suggesting that fine wares were equally available at both of these Historic Caddo sites. The exact proportion of engraved sherds cannot be determined at the Deshazo site because engraved and incised sherds were not quantified separately in the analysis by Fields (1995); nevertheless, Patton Engraved is the principal fine ware at the site. Based on the proportions of decorative classes in Table 1, engraved sherds can constitute no more than 13.7% of the Deshazo decorated sherds, but this proportion is likely much less than that amount (recent reanalysis by Shawn Marceaux of the Deshazo site decorated sherds will clarify the matter).

Henry M. and Deshazo ceramics are primarily grog-tempered (83-90.4%) (Table 2). Bone-tempered pottery, conversely, is much more abundant at the Spradley site, suggesting the existence of a different tradition of ceramic manufacture there when

compared to the wide-spread use of grog temper at the two Bayou Loco sites.

We can extend the ceramic comparisons to a broader part of Nacogdoches County (Table 3), employing several categories of decoration proposed by Middlebrook (2007:Table 1) as a means to differentiate contemporaneous ceramic assemblages, and also perhaps to distinguish different Caddo groups and communities living in the area. In Table 3, I use selected assemblages with more than 196 total sherds, and list them by drainage.

An inspection of Table 3 indicates the following:

The closest ceramic comparisons between the Henry M. site and the other known Nacogdoches County historic Caddo sites is with the Deshazo site (41NA27);

Bayou Loco and Angelina River sites are dominated by brushed utility wares. In the case of the Bayou Loco sites, they can be divided into two groups based on the relative proportion of brushed wares, one group with proportions ranging from 43-48.7% and the other with proportions between 59.8-69.4% (see Table 3); and

the Lanana Creek Caddo sites, Legg Creek sites, and Attoyac Bayou sites are part of a different local ceramic tradition, where brushed pottery is much less important, particularly in Caddo sites on Attoyac Bayou and Lanana Creek (see Table 3).

Table 3 makes clear that there are distinct spatial groupings of Allen phase sites in Nacogdoches County. Table 4 reshuffles the sites to regroup them by proportional similarity in the percentages and ratios expressed in the same ceramic attributes em-

**Table 1. Decorative classes in the utility ware and fine ware ceramics.**

Decoration	Spradley	Henry M.	Deshazo
<b>Utility Wares</b>			
Brushed	50.0 <sup>+</sup>	<u>72.3</u>	<u>85.6</u>
Brushed-incised	<u>2.7</u>	0.3	*
Brushed-appliqued	0.5	Trace	*
Brushed-punctated	0.2	0.1	*
Grooved	0.2	<u>2.4</u>	Trace
Neck banded	—	0.1	Trace
Ridged	0.1	—	—
Appliqued	0.2	Trace	0.5
Incised	<u>14.5</u>	5.2	*
Punctated	<u>15.4</u>	1.7	0.2
Incised-punctated	0.9	0.3	—
Pinched	0.1	—	—
Lip notched	0.1	—	—
<b>Fine wares</b>			
Engraved	15.0	13.0	*
Engraved-brushed	—	0.8	*
No. of decorated sherds	1499**	2132	23,651

\*present, but not quantified in Fields (1995); \*\*robust sample from the site; + = percentage

**Table 2. Temper comparisons between the three Historic Caddo sites.**

Temper	Spradley	Henry M.	Deshazo
bone-tempered	<u>40.3%</u>	9.2%	17.0%
shell-tempered	0.9%	0.4%	—
grog-tempered	58.8%	<u>90.4%</u>	<u>83%</u>

ployed in Table 3, irrespective of stream drainage, leading to the recognition of five groupings: Group I on Lanana Creek, Group II on the lower Bayou Loco, Group III on the upper part of Bayou Loco and other streams draining into the Angelina River, Group IV sites on Bayou Loco and Legg Creek, and a single site near the confluence of Attoyac Bayou and the Angelina River (Figure 1).

What do these ceramic groups represent other than generally contemporaneous historic sites occupied by Caddo peoples. I suggest they represent different but clearly related social groups or communities of Caddo peoples living in the

Angelina River basin (Corbin 2007; Perttula 2007:78). These groups may be refined, revised, or rejected with further analyses of the decorative elements and motifs present in the utility wares and fine wares.

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**Table 3. Ceramic Comparisons with selected other Historic Caddo sites in Nacogdoches County, Texas.**

Site*	% Brushed**	Brushed/Plain	% Brushed/Brushed + Plain
<b>Lanana Creek sites</b>			
41NA206	26.6	0.50	33.4
41NA223	18.1	0.32	24.2
<b>Angelina River sites and Bayou Loco</b>			
41NA6	65.1	4.61	82.2
41NA15	54.0	4.29	81.1
41NA54	70.2	3.8	79.0
<b>Bayou Loco sites</b>			
41NA21	46.2	1.21	54.7
41NA22	48.7	1.34	57.3
41NA23	43.0	1.15	53.5
41NA27	66.1	2.9	74.3
41NA60	59.8	2.8	73.8
41NA111	69.4	5.44	84.5
<b>Legg Creek</b>			
41NA44	34.1	1.07	51.8
<b>Attoyac Bayou</b>			
41NA67	7.2	0.12	10.7

\*Except for 41NA223, the sherd data from the other listed sites is from Middlebrook (2007: Table 1). \*\*% Brushed is the percentage of all sherds with brushing as the only surface treatment; Brushed/Plain is the ratio of brushed sherds to plain or undecorated sherds; and % Brushed/Brushed + Plain is the percentage of the sherds with brushing compared to all the sherds in a collection that do not have “more elaborate decorative styles such as incised, engraved, or punctated” (Middlebrook 2007:101).

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**Table 4. Groups I-V of Historic Caddo Ceramic Assemblages.**

Site*	% Brushed**	Brushed/Plain	% Brushed/Brushed + Plain
<b>Group I: Lanana Creek sites</b>			
41NA206	26.6	0.50	33.4
41NA223	18.1	0.32	24.2
<b>Group II: Bayou Loco</b>			
41NA60	59.8	2.8	73.8
41NA27	66.1	2.9	74.3
<b>Group III: Angelina River and Bayou Loco</b>			
41NA15	54.0	4.29	81.1
41NA6	65.1	4.61	82.2
41NA111	69.4	5.44	84.5
41NA54	70.2	3.8	79.0
<b>Group IV: Bayou Loco sites and Legg Creek</b>			
41NA44	34.1	1.07	51.8
41NA21	46.2	1.21	54.7
41NA22	48.7	1.34	57.3
41NA23	43.0	1.15	53.5
<b>Group V: Attoyac Bayou</b>			
41NA67	7.2	0.12	10.7

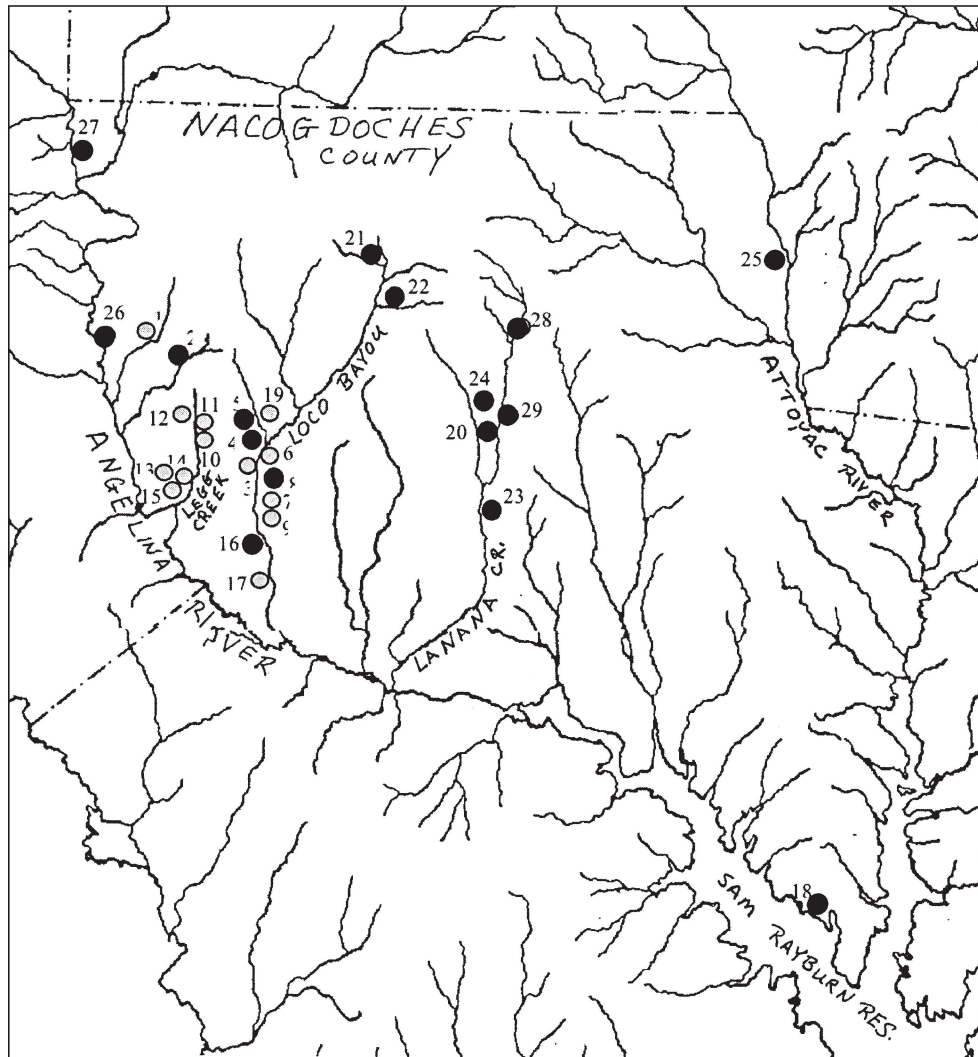


Figure 1. Location of Group I to Group V Historic Caddo ceramic assemblages in Nacogdoches County (after Middlebrook 2007:Figure 1). Black circles = location of Historic Caddo sites; Gray circles = location of possible Historic Caddo sites.

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. NA6 Dorsey       | 9. NA29 Perkins     | 17. NA65                  | 25. Joe Little     |
| 2. NA King          | 10. NA33            | 18. NA67                  | 26. AL Self        |
| 3. NA18             | 11. NA44 Chaya      | 19. NA III Dick Shipp     | 27. WT Williamson  |
| 4. NA21 Mayhew      | 12. NA47            | 20. NA 113                | 28. Appleby Bead   |
| 5. NA22 Iron Rock   | 13. N53             | 21. NA187 Loco Fork       | 29. Nac. East Bead |
| 6. NA23 Loco Bottom | 14. NA Cecil Sparks | 22. NA202 Stevens         |                    |
| 7. NA26             | 15. NA55            | 23. NA206 Steve Spradley  |                    |
| 8. NA27 Deshazo     | 16. NA60 Henry M    | 24. NA223 Guadalupe Pilar |                    |